ETHICS COMMITTEE



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SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTER ON OVERSIOUT

## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3807

April 10, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy Administrator United States Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

I am writing to you today regarding an 8 acre property located in Montgomery County, PA. The Site is known as the former Tank Car Corporation of America (TCCA). I would like to express my support for EPA action to ensure that the Site can be acquired by Springfield Township. The Township has laid out extensive plans for creating a park with state-of-the-art playing fields and much needed recreation options for local residents.

The TCCA operated a railroad tank car rehabilitation business at the Site for over 80 years up until 2002. In 2007, the EPA administratively ordered that TCCA complete a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) removal action. The TCCA eventually went bankrupt and was unable to complete the CERCLA actions required by the EPA. As a result, the EPA initiated Superfund-financed efforts to complete the removal action. The CERCLA removal action was completed in 2012. The EPA incurred a total of \$5.62 million in costs. To this date, the site has not been added to the National Priorities List (NPL).

I would encourage the Agency to work closely with Springfield Township to achieve their goal of a park in this 8 acre property. The township has expressed a willingness to assume long-term operation and maintenance responsibilities. While I understand the Agency has a responsibility to pursue cost-recovery options for the site, the people of Springfield Township and their elected representatives support the important recreation options that a park will bring to the community.

The redevelopment and remediation of the site will protect the health and safety of neighboring residents. A park at the former TCCA site would ensure the long-term integrity of a historically contaminated property. Additional recreation options for Springfield Township residents will bolster community engagement and physical activity. I ask that the Agency work closely with Springfield Township to make the park a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Gray, of my staff, at (202) 225-2011.

Sincerely,

Patrick Meehan Member of Congress